

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 OMB-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00

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R 090748Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1925

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSYSEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USUN 1025

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, CH, KN, KS, US

SUBJECT: PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIALS ON NORTH KOREAN NATIONAL DAY

REF: A) HONG KONG 10033 B) HONG KONG 9670 (NOTAL)

1. A SEPTEMBER 9 PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL MARKING THE 28TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE DPRK AVOIDS MENTION OF THE AUGUST 18 PANMUNJOM INCIDENT AND REITERATES CHINA'S CAUTIOUS POLICY OF SUPPORT FOR PYONGYANG'S EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION OF THE KOREAN PENINSULA. AS PRC DOMESTIC MEDIA CARRIED NO COMMENTARY OF THEIR OWN THROUGHOUT THE INCIDENT (REF A), THE EDITORIAL'S OMISSION IS FURTHER EVIDENCE THAT PEKING HAS CHOSEN TO AVOID PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN IT.

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2. SIGNIFICANTLY THE EDITORIAL MAINTAINS THAT BOTH

THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE HAVE FIRMLY SUPPORTED THE
KOREAN PEOPLE'S JUST STRUGGLE "AGAINST US AGGRESSION AND
INTERVENTION AND FOR INDEPENDENCE AND PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION".
(THE LAST TWO MAJOR COMMENTARIES ON KOREA CONTAINED CLAIMS
OF SUPPORT ONLY FROM THE CHINESE PEOPLE.) IN ADDITION US
AGGRESSION IS CALLED THE "GREATEST OBSTACLE" TO REUNIFICATION,
A MORE STRIDENT BUT SIMILAR ATTACK TO ONE CONTAINED IN AN
AUGUST 15 PEOPLE'S DAILY "COMMENTATOR" ARTICLE (REF B).
AS USUAL, THE EDITORIAL LINKS PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION TO THE
DISSOLUTION OF THE UN COMMAND AND WITHDRAWL OF US FORCES
WITHOUT OFFERING A DEFINITE TIMETABLE.
CROSS

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